



SENATE GETS TO WORK

Discusses Whether Convicted Senator Be Ignored.

REFERRING TO BURTON

Some Allege Burton Should Not Be Left Off Committee Assignments.

GEARIN WILL BE ASSIGNED

He Will Be Appointed to the Committee on Claims, Forest Reservations, and Protection of Game, Pensions, Industrial Expositions, and National Banks.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Whether the Senate is warranted in ignoring a Senator convicted in the courts on a charge of misconduct and not assigning him places on the standing committees, yet leaving his name on the Senate roll was discussed for two hours today by the Senate and then dropped without a ruling on the question. Several Senate leaders took up the subject. On account of the delicacy of the question the debate was naturally not as open as would be necessary for a final determination of the matter.

Bailey raised the point by inquiring of Hale if when the latter presented a new list of standing committees, whether every Senator had been provided with a place. Hale responded that every Senator except Burton of Kansas had been given assignments and he had been left off the committees at his own request until the charges against him were disposed of by the courts. Bailey protested against any Senator's name being kept on the roll unless given work to do and argued it the duty of the Senate to itself, to Kansas and to the country to investigate the charges against Burton and determine whether he was entitled to a seat in the Senate.

In response several called attention to the fact that Congress was following the precedent established by the English Parliament in not taking cognizance of charges against a member until the charges had been determined in the courts. Messrs. Hale, Spooner, Lodge, and Dainel were of this opinion.

Mr. Bailey called attention to the fact that there had been five Senators indicted in the last ten years, all on charges complying that crimes had been committed for money, and he said that the time had arrived when the Senate should testify this is "no place to come to make money dishonestly." He complained that Senators who behave themselves suffer for those who did not, through being subjected to ridicule and jests.

Teller defended the late Senator Mitchell, saying it would take more than a word of "self-convicted thief, purger, and forger" to convince him that Mitchell had committed any crime.

The standing committees of the Sen-

ate announced today, show that every Republican Senator was given the chairmanship, except Burton of Kansas who was ignored entirely as to the assignments, in response to his request that he be not placed on any committee pending the determination of the charges against him. Vacancies were left for Senators LaFollette, Wisconsin, and Gearin, Oregon, neither of whom has been sworn in.

Among the assignments were: Commerce, Ankeny; public lands, Fulton; territories, Piles; Pacific islands, Piles; Irrigation Ankeny, (chairman); Fulton and Forest; reservations and protection of game, Ankeny; inter-oceanic canals, Piles; postoffice and post roads, Fulton; pensions, Piles; claims, Fulton, (chairman); Canadian relations, Piles; coast defense, Ankeny; to examine the several branches of the civil service, Piles and Nixon; railroads, Ankeny; revision laws of the United States, Fulton; national banks, Ankeny; industrial expositions, Fulton.

Gearin will be assigned to claims, forest reservations, and protection of game, pensions, industrial expositions, and national banks.

CLEANING UP

Armstrong Committee Preparing to Make Their Report.

New York, Dec. 18.—With the resumption of its sessions today the Armstrong committee practically started on a cleaning up of its work preparatory to formulating a report to the legislature. Today was devoted to the smaller companies; those under examination being the Provident Savings, the Empire Life, and the Life Association of America.

REFUSES ASSENT

China Will Make Japan No Concessions.

AS A RESULT OF THE WAR

Mission of Baron Komura to Peking is Fruitless in Spite of Pressure—Russia, France and Germany Believed to Be Supporting China's Position.

Tokio, Dec. 18.—The continued failure of Baron Komura to conclude the negotiations with the Chinese government, at Peking, which were begun after the conclusion of the Russian-Japanese war, is an open secret. It is believed by some Japanese here, that the extent of Japan's concessions are such as will fail to secure what they think should properly have been her acquisitions as the result of the treaty of Portsmouth.

For example, the building of the Kirin & Chang Chung Railway has not been conceded, and the stationing of railway guards is not to be permitted, leaving the work in the hands of the police, who will be withdrawn when the period for the withdrawal of troops expires.

China's firm attitude is believed to be due to combined pressure indirectly exerted by Russia, France and Germany. The outcry against the alleged weakness of the cabinet is increasing, and some persons advocate the suspension of the Peking negotiations.

The kindness of the emperor of Germany to former Japanese prisoners of war on their way home is appreciated, but the Japanese appear to be distrustful of his style of diplomacy.

THREE BIG BANKS FAIL IN CHICAGO

ALL OF THEM CONTROLLED BY JOHN R. WALSH

Chicago National Home Savings Bank and the Equitable Trust Company Largest Institutions in the West Are the Ones Failing.

CHICAGO CLEARING HOUSE STANDS BEHIND DEFUNCT BANKS

Banks of Chicago Come to the Rescue of the Depositors of the Three Broken Banks and Declare They Will Pay All the Persons Having Money in Them—Panic Among Depositors is Thus Averted—Cause of Failure Was in Big Loans.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—Three of the largest financial institutions in the West, the Chicago National, the Home Savings bank and the Equitable Trust Company, all of them controlled by John R. Walsh of this city and in a great measure owned by him suspended operations today. Their affairs will be liquidated as rapidly as possible and they will go out of business. National Bank Examiner Bosworth has succeeded Walsh at the head of the Chicago National bank and the places of the directors have been filled by men appointed by the Chicago Clearing House. Back of the new management stand allied, the banks of Chicago, who have pledged their resources that every depositor shall be paid to the last cent and no customer of the three institutions shall lose anything by reason of the suspension. Had not this action been taken by the banks of the city, a disastrous panic must have followed in the financial world. The immediate cause of the collapse of the institutions is said to be that a large amount of money was loaned to various private enterprises, notably the Southern Indiana Railway and the Bedford Quarries Co., of Indiana. Walsh claims if he had had a little more time he could have saved the banks and made enormous profits for himself and associates. He bases his statement on his estimate of the value of the bonds of the Southern Indiana Railroad Company. Controller of Currency, the State Auditor, and members of the Chicago Clearing House place the value of the bonds at one half the valuation of Walsh, and their refusal to accept his valuation is that which caused the suspension of the banks.

The liabilities of the three institutions is estimated at \$20,000,000. Against this amount the banks and Trust Co., have resources on a conservative estimate worth about \$16,000,000. The bonds of the Southern Indiana Railroad Company are estimated by Walsh at being worth \$18,000,000. They are considered by the controller, state auditor and Clearing House committee as worth about half that sum. Their value is a matter to be determined in the future and the president's of the local banks admit if the estimate of Walsh is found to be correct the two banks and the Trust company will not only pay all their debts but leave a surplus besides. The directors of the two banks and Walsh, who have turned over all his property as well as that standing in the name of Mrs. Walsh have pledged real estate and securities valued at \$5,000,000 and estimating the railroad bonds at \$8,000,000 more make a total of \$20,000,000 assets against \$20,000,000 liabilities.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—Failure of the Chicago National bank, the Home Savings bank, and the Equitable Trust Company, all of Chicago, was announced at 3:30 o'clock this morning by representatives of the Chicago Clearing House Association after a session lasting 18 hours

James B. Forgan, president of the First National bank, as head of the clearing house committee of the Chicago Associated banks, gave forth the statement. The assets of these institutions, it was asserted, were involved in coal and railway properties of John R. Walsh, the president of the Chicago National bank. John R. Walsh, head of the institutions which have been declared insolvent, was not at the meeting. The following were the members of the committee at the meeting: James B. Forgan, chairman; John J. Mitchell, James H. Eckles, Orson B. Smith, Ernest A. Hamill.

The statement was issued at the offices of the First National bank. It is as follows:

"The Chicago National bank, the Home Savings bank, and Equitable Trust Company, which have been controlled and managed by John R. Walsh and his associates have concluded to wind up their affairs and quit business in this city. After a thorough and careful examination of their affairs by the Chicago clearing house banks, it is stated that all of the depositors of these institutions will be paid in full upon demand, the Chicago Clearing House banks having pledged themselves to this result, thus putting all the resources of the Chicago banks behind the depositors of these three institutions. The difficulty with the institutions has been that investments have been made in assets connected with the railway and coal enterprises of John R. Walsh.

"These assets were not immediately available to meet deposits and have been taken over on terms which will enable the three institutions to pay their depositors in full.

Mr. Ridgely, comptroller of the currency, and Charles Eubank, of the auditor's department at Springfield, were seen and expressed themselves as greatly pleased with the action of the Chicago banks, and stated that it reeked great credit upon the associated banks of Chicago which have again indicated their ability to meet and emergency in a manner entirely satisfactory to the public."

The meeting of the Chicago clearing house association began at noon Sunday. Notices were sent to the members of the board by Mr. Forgan after it had been learned of the condition of the banks and the trust company.

Clerks were notified and fifty or more with ten stenographers hurried to the First National Bank. Behind closed doors the Clearing House Association began its work of finding a way that might enable them to ride the financial sea in safety. That a panic would be likely to follow was the first thought of the committee.

Resolutions were adopted and heads of other banks pledged themselves to give assistance. The amount involved in the failure would not be stated by the committee members.

All information concerning the meeting of the committee was kept secret until three o'clock this morning and half

an hour later the Association gave the statement to the press.

Directors of different banks were in attendance as were other bank officials from nearby cities.

The names of the committee who drew up the statement are: James B. Forgan, president of the First National Bank; Chairman John G. Mitchell, president of the Illinois Trust & Savings Bank; Orson B. Smith, president of the Merchants' Loan & Trust Company; James Eckels, president of the Commercial National Bank; Ernest A. Hamill, president of the Corn Exchange National Bank.

In addition to the formal statement of the failure and the announcement that the banks involved would not open their doors this morning the following announcement was made, signed by the clearing house committee of the Chicago Associated Banks:

To the public: Depositors of the Chicago National Bank, the Home Savings Bank, and the Equitable Trust Company are respectfully advised that their deposits will be paid in full upon demand.

THE CONDUCTOR AND ENGINEER ARE HELD RESPONSIBLE

Coroner's Jury Investigating Cause of Railroad Collision Return Verdict—Accused Men Nearly Crazed.

Rock Springs, Dec. 18.—The coroner's jury investigating the cause of the collision between the Overland Limited and the freight at Absay on December 7th, returned a verdict, holding Engineer Brink and Conductor Darrel of the freight train responsible. The men are almost crazed with grief over the disaster.

MAY BE SAME MEN

Thugs Who Held Up Passenger Train.

THOUGHT TO BE IDENTICAL

With the Two Men Men Who Held up and Robbed Saloon in Portland and Shot Fleming—Description Tallies—Traced into Washington.

Portland, Dec. 18.—The two men who held up the North Coast Limited, near Hillside, on Saturday night, may be identical with the men who held up the Centennial saloon in this city on Friday, getting away with over one hundred dollars, and shooting Thomas Fleming, who resisted them, so that he died the following day.

The saloon holdups were traced to Goble where the reported attempt to capture them met with resistance, and the men escaped across the river. It is surmised, the men continued northward and committed the robbery of the train. The descriptions of the men who committed the robbery in this city and those who robbed the Northern Pacific train, as far as can be learned are identical.

HOUSE TALKS.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Insurance, hazing, suffering of the Russian Jew, and immigration were all topics of discussion in the House under a general talk. The only business done was to send the canal appropriation bill to conference.

LANKY BOB IS IN GOOD CONDITION FOR FIGHT

San Francisco, Dec. 18.—Roert Fitzsimmons moved today from his training quarters in Alameda to this city where he will remain until the contest with Jack O'Brien of Philadelphia Wednesday night. His backers say he is in fine condition and is confident of success. The betting odds are 10 to 7 in O'Brien's favor and indications are at least for a \$12,000 house on the occasion of the meeting of the two men.

IN SPITE OF POLICE

Workmen's Council Prints 100,000 Copies.

TELLING CONDITIONS

Says Government is Making Last Fight—Romanoff's Throne Will Fall.

REVOLUTION EVERYWHERE

Martial Law Declared in Several Districts in Poland, Livonia and Greater Part of Courland in Possession of Insurgents—Excesses Committed.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 18.—The workmen's council under the very noses of the police, succeeded in printing 100,000 copies of its paper today announcing that the government had declared civil war on the proletariat and saying the challenge must be accepted. In its appeal to the people the council declares this is the government's last fight; that the throne of the Romanoffs is tottering, and another blow will cause it to fall. The council adds: "While the government at St. Petersburg is falling, its own regimen is rising against it, and at Riga a republic already has been proclaimed. A few regiments may still be faithful but the army as a whole is on our side. The government wants to fight. It shall have it." In spite of the fury of the revolutionists, however, considerable confidence is expressed in government circles, that the extreme elements, in the present temper of the workmen, will not dare to call a general strike and if they do the chances are it will be a failure.

Governor Regenak, of Riga, is still urgently calling for troops.

He reports besides the fact of armed insurgents disputing the passage of soldiers, the railroad tracks are damaged in all directions and he advises that troops be sent by water. It transpires that the re-inforcements of troops on board a train wrecked on December 14, near Stockmansoff, Livonia, surrendered to the insurgents. Governor Regenak's latest advices say the remainder of the troops held out for four days. Their position when last heard from was desperate.

Tuesday, advices from Moscow say that the town is quiet and the posts and telegraphs are working almost normally. Martial law has been declared in several districts of the government of Poland.

A dispatch dated Dorpat says: The southern part of Livonia and the greater part of Courland is completely in the possession of the insurgents. The military is still much too feeble to cope with the situation. The region between Riga and Wenden is a wilderness.

Telegrams received at the capital today say troops returning to Russia over the trans-Siberian railway are greatly enraged at delays they are subjected to.